U.S. CITIZEN SERVICES

U.S. Embassy – Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire Warden Message – Abidjan International Airport, land and maritime borders remain closed

December 4, 2010

U.S. citizens are advised that Abidjan International Airport, land and maritime borders in Cote d'Ivoire remain closed, and that the Government of Cote d'Ivoire has shut down major media outlets and SMS (text) messaging capability. The curfew remains in place from 7pm to 6am until further notice. The Embassy advises that U.S. citizens respect the curfew, restrict their movements and shelter in place or in a safe haven until such time as it is safe to move around or depart the country. The Embassy advises U.S. citizens outside of the country to defer travel to Cote d'Ivoire.

On November 28, Cote d'Ivoire held round two of its Presidential election. During the elections, the government implemented and enforced a curfew. Several people were killed in election-related violence and tensions are currently high as the country grapples with post-election contradiction. Certification of the results of the election by the Independent Electoral Commission, the Constitutional Council and the United Nations Special Representative are in conflict. There is increased possibility of conflict between supporters or troops loyal to the incumbent and those loyal to the opposition candidate, as both candidates were sworn in as president in separate ceremonies on December 4, 2010.

Please ensure that your personal data that your contact and personal information is up-to-date, by enrolling in the Smart Travelers Enrollment Program (STEP). Get Embassy updates by checking the Consular pages on the U.S. Embassy Abidjan website at http://abidjan.usembassy.gov/travelregist.html. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, we have a call center for updates--1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

If you have questions or concerns about safety or related issues, you are encouraged to contact the consular section at the Embassy by sending an email message to Abjamcit@state.gov . In emergencies and for urgent security matters, you can call the Embassy switchboard at 225-22-49-40-00; the emergency after-hours telephone is: +225-22-49-44-50.

The U.S. Embassy is located in the Riviera Golf neighborhood of the Cocody section of Abidjan, east of the downtown area. The Embassy's postal address is 01 B.P. 1712 Abidjan 01.